

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

DELEGATION FROM THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

for the relations with

THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS

Eleventh Meeting

Luxembourg and London

5-13 July 1977

DOCUMENTARY NOTE

CHRONOLOGY OF RECENT MAIN POLITICAL EVENTS

(January 1975-June 1977)

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR COMMITTEES
AND INTERPARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

7 June 1977

PE 49.248

JANUARY 1975

- 13 January Greek Parliament passed legislation describing events of April 1967 as a coup d'état.
- 14 January USSR rejected a trade agreement with USA because of the latter's insistence on the relaxation of emigration requirements for Soviet Jews.
- 15 January Portugal and three Angolan liberation movements signed agreement to grant independence to Angola (see 14 August, 11 November, 19 December).
- 18 January China announced that National People's Congress had been held and that Chou En-lai had been re-elected Prime Minister; 19 January announced promulgation of new constitution, shortened from 106 articles to 30 and replacing the one in force since 1964.
- 19 January In France, 20 people injured in battle at Orly airport with Arab gunmen who attempted grenade attack on El Al jumbo jet and then seized three hostages; 20 January terrorists flown to Iraq after release of hostages.
- 26 January Sheikh Mujibar RAHMAN became President of Bangladesh after unopposed passage through Parliament of Constitution Amendment Bill (see 15 August).
- 27 January President SADAT of Egypt arrived in France for three day state visit; 29 January announcement that France would supply Egypt with Mirage aircraft.
- 29 January Britain and Iran signed agreement for economic cooperation involving British supplies of capital goods and technical knowledge to Iran worth £430 million.

FEBRUARY 1975

- 5 February USA cut off military aid to Turkey because of delay over Cyprus peace settlement (see 26 July).
- 9 February Provisional IRA announced that ceasefire in Ulster and UK, operating from 20 December 1974 and due to expire, would continue (see 13 August, 24 September).
- 10 February Pakistan Government banned main opposition party National Awami Party and imprisoned its leaders.
- 11 February In UK, Mrs Margaret THATCHER elected Leader of the Conservative Party in second round ballot; 12 February, Mr William WHITELOW named Deputy Leader.
- In Malagasy Republic, President RATSIMANDRAVA assassinated after only six days in office; 15 June, Lt-Cdr Didier RATSIRAKA named head of state.
- 13 February Cyprus Government called for urgent meeting of UN Security Council following unilateral proclamation of a separate state within a federal republic by Turkish Cypriot leadership (see 8 June).
- 17 February At end of four day visit to Moscow by Mr WILSON and Mr CALLAGHAN, documents signed aimed at extending economic, industrial and scientific cooperation.
- 26 February In UK, publication of White Paper, Referendum on United Kingdom Membership of the European Community (Cmd. 5925) (see 27 March, 5 June).
- 27 February In West Berlin, Opposition leader Herr Peter LORENZ kidnapped by Baader-Meinhof guerrillas; 4 March released unharmed after five convicted terrorists had been released from West German jails and flown to Aden.

28 February

Five-year agreement covering trade, aid and cooperation between European Community and 46 developing nations, known as the Lomé Convention, signed at Lomé, Togo.

MARCH 1975

2 March

Shah of Iran announced formation of National Political Resurrection Movement incorporating all active political movements.

4 March

At opening meeting of OPEC heads of state in Algiers, President BOURMEDIENNE proposed \$10,000 million fund to help the Third World and some developed countries.

6 March

In Israel, 18 people (including 7 terrorists) died when troops stormed Tel Aviv hotel where 8 Palestinians were holding 10 Israeli hostages.

9 March

In Romania, voters elected new Parliament and local councils in first poll for 29 years to offer choice of candidates.

10 March

Two-day summit conference of EEC heads of government opened in Dublin.

Canadian Prime Minister Mr Pierre TRUDEAU arrived in London for talks with Mr WILSON.

12 March

In Portugal, Armed Forces Movement set up Supreme Revolutionary Council with full legislative powers and absorbing existing military junta.

18 March

In UK, Cabinet decided 16-7 to recommend that Britain remain in European Community (see 5 June).

23 March

Dr KISSINGER left Tel Aviv after breakdown of his efforts to negotiate a second stage disengagement agreement between Israel and Egypt (see 4 September).

- 25 March . King FEISAL of Saudi Arabia was murdered by his nephew Prince FAISAL and was succeeded by his brother Khaled ibn ABDUL AZIZ.
- 27 March In UK, publication of White Paper, Membership of the European Community: Report on Renegotiation (Cmnd.6003); 9 April approved by House of Commons 396-170 in free vote.
- 31 March In UK, a total of 43 ports in Scotland, NE and NW England affected by a blockade by fishermen protesting against cheap fish imports from non-EEC countries; 3 April blockade ended after talks with Government Ministers.

APRIL 1975

- 1 April President LON NOL left Cambodia for an indefinite period and General Sokham KOY became interim President (see 17 April).
- 10 April President GISCARD d'ESTAING arrived in Algiers at start of a state visit, the first by a French President since Algeria achieved independence.
- 13 April President TOMBALBAYE of Chad killed in army coup.
- In Egypt, Cabinet of Mr Abdel-Aziz HEJAZI resigned; 16 April, new Cabinet led by Mr Mamdouh MOHAMMED SALEM sworn in.
- 14 April In Sikkim, electorate voted overwhelmingly to abolish monarchy and seek full Indian statehood; 21 April, Indian Government introduced Bill to make Sikkim the 22nd state of India.
- 16 April Portuguese Prime Minister, Brigadier GONCALVES announced sweeping programme of nationalization for public services and basic industries.

17 April Cambodia finally fell to communist Khmer Rouge forces when Republican forces surrendered Phnom Penh (see 9 September).

21 April Nguyen Van THIEU resigned as President of South Vietnam and later fled into exile in Taiwan; was succeeded by Tran VAN HUONG who himself resigned in favour of Gen Duong van MINGH on 27 April (see 30 April).

22 April In Honduras, Gen Oswaldo López ARELLANO overthrown in bloodless coup and succeeded as President by Col Juan Melgar CASTRO

24 April Six West German terrorists blew up West German embassy in Stockholm, killing two hostages, after Government had refused to release six Baader-Meinhof anarchists from gaol, but were themselves captured and deported to West Germany.

25 April In first free election in Portugal for fifty years three main non-communist parties scored overwhelming majority in ballot for new Constituent Assembly, Socialist Party led by Dr Mario SOARES emerging with clear lead over its rivals.

29 April Commonwealth Prime Ministers conference opened in Kingston, Jamaica, ending 6 May.

30 April In South Vietnam, President MINH announced unconditional surrender to Vietcong.

MAY 1975

1 May

In Northern Ireland, elections for new Constitutional Convention; UUUC won 46 of 84 seats.

12 May

Cambodian Navy siezed US merchant ship Mayaquez with crew of 40 on high seas; 15 May, Mayaquez retaken in operation by US Marines, of whom 15 killed, 3 missing and 50 injured; crew previously released.

China's leading Deputy Premier Teng HSIAO-P'ING arrived for official visit to France, the most senior Chinese leader ever to visit Europe.

15 May

In the Lebanon, Mr R. SOLH resigned as Prime Minister after blaming right-wing Phalangists for clashes in Beirut in which 140 died in five days of disorder (see 30 June).

Mr György LAZAR replaced Mr Jenö FOCK as Prime Minister of Hungary.

21 May

In West Germany, trial opened in Stuttgart of alleged Baader-Meinhof urban terrorists Andreas BAADER, Ulrike MEINHOF, Gudrun ENSSLIN and Jan-Carl RASPE.

27 May

In Zambia, Mr Mainza CHONA resigned as Prime Minister and was replaced by Elijah MUDENDA.

29 May

Two-day NATO summit meeting opened in Brussels attended by President FORD who subsequently paid visits to several European capitals.

In Czechoslovakia, Dr HUSAK elected President while remaining General Secretary of Communist Party, following retirement of President SVOBODA.

JUNE 1975

- 1 June In Rhodesia, 11 Africans shot dead and 15 injured when police opened fire on rioting crowd of rival black political factions.
- 5 June In first-ever referendum in UK, electors voted by more than 2-1 in favour of remaining in European Community.
- President SADAT of Egypt reopened Suez Canal to international shipping eight years after it had been closed by Six-Day War.
- 7 June Greek Parliament adopted a new constitution establishing a parliamentary republic with executive and legislative authority for the President (see 20 June).
- 8 June In Cyprus, 99.4 per cent of Turkish Cypriot electors votes in approval of draft constitution of self-proclaimed Turkish Cypriot state.
- 9 June In UK, trial opened at Lancaster Crown Court of nine men accused of planting bombs that killed 21 people in Birmingham on 21 November 1974, 15 August six defendants sentenced to life imprisonment for murder and other three convicted of conspiracy and explosive charges
- 10 June In USA, Report of Presidential Commission on CIA, headed by Vice-President ROCKEFELLER, concluded that some of the CIA's activities inside USA were 'plainly unlawful and constituted improper invasions upon the rights of Americans'

- 11 June In Uganda, British lecturer Mr Dennis HILLS sentenced to death after being found guilty of 'treason'; 10 July, released and flown to UK, following personal message from the Queen, mediation by President MOBUTU of Zaire and visit to Zaire and Uganda by British Foreign Secretary, Mr CALLAGHAN.
- 12 June In India, Mrs Indira GANDHI found guilty of corrupt election practices and disqualified from elective office for six years (see 26 June and 7 November).
- 16 June Simonstown Agreement on naval cooperation between Britain and South Africa formally ended by mutual agreement after 169 years.
- 20 June Mr Konstantinos TSATSOS sworn in as President of Greece.
- 25 June Mr Samora MACHEL sworn in as President when Mozambique achieved independence after more than 500 years as a Portuguese colony.
- 26 June In India, Mrs GANDHI declared a state of emergency and arrested several hundred political opponents.
- 30 June In Lebanon, Mr Rashid KARAMI formed new six-man Government with aim of halting 2½-month crisis (see 19 November).

JULY 1975

- 4 July In Israel, 13 people died and 78 were injured in terrorist bomb explosion in Jerusalem.
- 6 July Parliament of the Comoro Islands declared unilateral independence from French rule.
- 11 July In UK, Government published White Paper, The Attack on Inflation (Cmd. 6151); pay rises to be held to an upper limit of £6 per week during coming year.

16 July Two-day summit meeting of EEC heads of government opened in Brussels.

17 July American Apollo and Soviet Soyuz spacecraft docked in space in first-ever joint venture between the two countries; spacecraft remained docked for 44 hours and crews visited each other's capsules.

In Portugal, Supreme Revolutionary Council dissolved Government following resignation of Popular Democrats and Socialists from coalition (see 8 August).

22 July In UK, Attorney-General Mr SILKIN opened case seeking to restrain publication of diaries of later Richard CROSSMAN; 28 July hearing ended (see 1 October).

25 July In Portugal, Armed Forces Movement appointed triumvirate to rule the country, consisting of President Costa GOMES, Prime Minister Gen. Vasco GONCALVES and Commander of Copcon (internal security force) Gen. de CARVALHO.

26 July Turkish Government took control of all US defence installations in Turkey following refusal by US Congress to lift ban on military aid.

29 July Conference of heads of state of OAU opened in Kampala, Uganda, under chairmanship of Gen. AMIN ending 2 August.

In Nigeria, army officers deposed Gen. GOWON (absent at OAU summit) in bloodless coup; Brig. Murtala MOHAMMED named head of state.

30 July Summit conference on European security opened in Helsinki, attended by leaders of 35 nations including US President FORD and Soviet Communist Party leader Mr BREZHNEV; 1 August Declaration, intended to end cold war and lay foundations of new era of peaceful cooperation, signed by all nations present.

AUGUST 1975

8 August

In Portugal, fifth provisional post-revolution Government led by Gen GONCALVES sworn in (see 29 August).

13 August

In renewed violence in Northern Ireland, four killed and 44 injured in bar run by UVF in Belfast; 14 August UVF threatened reprisals unless British Government withdrew from IRA ceasefire.

14 August

Portugal resumed administrative control of Angola following collapse of transitional Government (see 11 November).

15 August

In Bangladesh, Sheikh Mujibur RAHMAN and members of his family assassinated in military coup; Mr Khondakar Moshtaque AHMED sworn in as new President.

17 August

In USA, Samuel BRONFMAN (son of Chairman of Distillers Limited) rescued together with \$2.3 million ransom money from kid-nappers who were themselves detained by police.

21 August

Portuguese Government admitted that its forces had lost control of its colony, Timor, where fighting had broken out between three rival liberation groups (see 7 December).

US Secretary of State Dr KISSINGER arrived in Israel at start of new attempt to negotiate peace settlement in Middle East (see 4 September).

22 August

In Greece, former dictator Georges PAPADOPOULOS and two associates sentenced to death for high treason and revolt by Athens Court of Appeal, 25 August Government commuted sentences to life imprisonment.

- 22 August In Corsica, two gendarmes killed by armed autonomist group campaigning against 'agrarian colonization' of island by non-Corsicans; 27 August French Government dispatched squadron of parachute gendarmes to maintain order after rioting.
- 25 August South African Prime Minister Mr VORSTER and Zambian President KAUNDA presided at opening session of constitutional talks between Rhodesian Government and African National Council in railway carriage at Victoria Falls Bridge; 26 August talks collapsed.
- 29 August In Peru, President Juan Velasco ALVARADO overthrown in coup led by Gen. Francisco Morales BERMUDEZ (Prime Minister and Commander in Chief of Army).
- In Portugal Admiral José Pinheiro de AZEVEDO named Prime Minister in succession to Gen. Vasco GONCALVES, who was himself subsequently rejected as Commander in Chief of armed forces by the army (see 19 September).
- 31 August IMF announced decision to disposed gradually of its holdings of about 150 million oz. of gold and to remove all references to status of gold in world monetary affairs from its articles.

SEPTEMBER 1975

- 1 September Island of Bougainville declared itself independent from Papua-New Guinea and renamed itself Republic of North Solomons (see 16 September)
- 4 September In Geneva, representatives of Israel and Egypt signed an agreement providing for Israeli withdrawal in Sinai and establishment of new UN buffer zone.

4 September In UK, HM The Queen opened Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference which was attended by four representatives of Palestine Liberation Organization.

5 September In USA, President FORD escaped an assassination attempt in Sacramento, California, unharmed; 26 November Lynette FROMME convicted of attempted assassination.

8 September In Northern Ireland, 'loyalist' coalition of three Unionist Parties voted 37-1 to oppose any form of power-sharing with Catholics in Ulster Convention; 9 September Mr William CRAIG resigned as leader of Vanguard Unionists in coalition.

9 September In Lebanon, Government met in emergency session to discuss threat of national civil war (see 19 November).

Prince SIHANOUK returned to Cambodia for three-week visit after five years exile in China.

16 September Papua-New Guinea achieved independence from Australia within the Commonwealth at celebrations attended by Prince of Wales.

19 September In Portugal, sixth provisional Government dominated by socialist and centrist civilians and headed by Admiral PINHEIRO de AZEVEDO sworn in (see 20 November).

21 September Sultan Yahya Ibni al MARHUM sworn in as sixth King of Malaysia.

22 September In USA, President FORD escaped a second assassination attempt in San Francisco; 16 December Sara Jane MOORE convicted of firing at the President.

24 September In UK, Northern Ireland Secretary issued statement condemning IRA and saying recent widespread bombings were a mockery of the ceasefire.

27 September

In Spain, five political activists convicted of acts of terrorism executed by firing squad amid bitter international opposition.

OPEC countries meeting in Vienna agreed on a ten per cent increase in the price of oil followed by a nine-month freeze.

28 September

In Rhodesia, Joshua NKOMO elected President of African National Council.

OCTOBER 1975

1 October

In UK, Lord Chief Justice ruled that the publication of first volume of diaries of late Richard CROSSMAN might proceed.

Italy and Yugoslavia settled long-standing dispute over Trieste with draft agreement ratifying existing border.

2 October

Emperor HIROHITO of Japan began his first-ever state visit to the USA.

3 October

In Republic of Ireland, Netherlands businessman Dr Tiede HERREMA kidnapped by members of IRA; 7 November released unharmed after 18-day siege of house in Monasterevin, near Dublin, by police and refusal of Government to yield to kidnappers' demands.

In UK six hostages released unharmed when three gunmen gave themselves up to police after six-day siege at Spaghetti House Restaurant, London.

5 October

In Austria, Dr Bruno KREISKY's Socialist Party returned with increased majority in general election.

9 October

In UK, official figures showed a 2.5% fall in real disposable income in second quarter of 1975 - the biggest fall in living standards for 20 years.

9 October Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Soviet dissident scientist, Dr Andrei SAKHAROV,

14 October President GISCARD d'ESTAING arrived in Moscow at start of four-day visit in which talks with Mr BREZHNEV were severely curtailed.

16 October King HASSAN of Morocco announced that he personally would lead a march of 350,000 unarmed civilians in a peaceful invasion of Spanish Sahara; 9 November King called on marchers who had entered country on 6 November to withdraw; 14 November representatives of Morocco, Mauritania and Spanish Sahara reported to have reached agreement on future of the country.

21 October In UK, the total of unemployed, seasonally adjusted, exceeded one million for the first time since World War II.

22 October After two days of talks in London Mr WILSON and Crown Prince FAHD of Saudi Arabia signed agreement on cooperation which would give British exporters a large stake in Saudi Arabia's development plan (see 4 June).

In UK, three IRA men and English girl sentenced to life imprisonment at Central Criminal Court for murder and causing bomb explosions at public houses in Guildford and Woolwich in 1974.

24 October In Iceland, women stage an almost 100% 24-hour strike virtually bringing life of the country to a standstill.

27 October President SADAT of Egypt arrived in USA at start of state visit; 6 November arrived in UK for three-day visit.

29 October Chancellor Helmut SCHMIDT arrived in Peking at start of first-ever visit to China by a West German leader.

NOVEMBER 1975

3 November

In USA, Vice-President ROCKEFELLER announced that he would not seek election as President FORD's running-mate in 1976; Dr James SCHLESINGER dismissed as Secretary of Defense and Mr William COLBY of CIA.

In Scotland flow of North Sea oil to Britain inaugurated by HM the Queen.

7 November

In India, Supreme Court unanimously quashed lower court ruling that barred Mrs GANDHI from elective office for six years (see 12 June).

In UK, Treasury announced that Britain had applied to borrow £975 million from IMF to finance balance of payments deficit.

10 November

Angola achieved independence from Portugal after 500 years of colonial rule but because of fighting between different political factions the country was left with no internationally-recognized Government (see 19 December).

11 November

Mr Gough WHITLAM dismissed as Prime Minister of Australia by Governor-General following blocking of Labour Government's finance Bills by Senate; Opposition Leader Mr Malcolm FRASER named caretaker Prime Minister pending general election (see 13 December).

UN General Assembly voted for a resolution declaring Zionism 'a form of racism and racial discrimination'.

15 November

In France, Heads of Government of France, Germany, UK, USA, Italy and Papan met for three days at Rambouillet to examine ways of dealing with world economic problems; 17 November communiqué promised joint action to lead the world out of recession.

15 November Icelandic coastguards cut wires of two British trawlers - first of several incidents in a renewed 'cod war' following expiry of earlier agreement; 25 November three naval frigates sent to protect trawlers.

18 November President NYERERE of Tanzania arrived in London for three-day state visit.

19 November Former French Prime Minister M COUVE de MURVILLE began attempt to mediate in civil disturbances in Lebanon at invitation of Lebanese Government.

20 November In Spain, the death of General FRANCO; 22 November Franco's designated successor as head of state, King Juan CARLOS I, sworn in.

25 November Surinam achieved independence from the Netherlands at celebrations attended by Crown Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands.

26 November In Portugal, loyalist Government forces quashed rebellion by leftist paratroopers and President ordered disbandment of internal security force Copcon.

In USA, President FORD proposed short-term loans up to \$2,300 million should be made available to New York City to save it from bankruptcy.

In Japan, government workers began biggest strike in country's history in support of the right to strike.

27 November In UK, publication of White Paper, Our Changing Democracy: Devolution to Scotland and Wales (Cmnd. 6348); outlined proposals for Scottish and Welsh Assemblies.

In UK, writer and publisher Mr Ross McWHIRTER shot dead at door of his London home by IRA gunmen.

29 November

In New Zealand, Mr Bill ROWLING's outgoing Labour Government decisively defeated in general election by National Party led by Mr Robert MULDOON.

DECEMBER 1975

1 December

Two-day summit meeting of EEC heads of government opened in Rome.

President FORD arrived in Peking at start of five-day official visit to China.

In Rhodesia, Mr Ian SMITH and Mr Joshua NKOMO signed declaration of intent to negotiate a constitutional settlement.

2 December

In the Netherlands, 6 South Moluccan terrorists hijacked a train at Beilen and held passengers and crew at gunpoint, killing three of them; 14 December siege ended with surrender of gunmen and release of remaining hostages unharmed.

3 December

In Laos, King Savang VATTHANA abdicated and Government of Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA resigned; broadcast announced creation of People's Democratic Republic of Laos.

4 December

In Netherlands, a second group of South Moluccan terrorists forced their way into Indonesian consulate in Amsterdam and held some thirty people hostage; 19 December siege ended with peaceful surrender of gunmen.

5 December

Northern Ireland Secretary Mr REES ended detention without trial in the Province after 52 months.

In Spain, King Juan CARLOS confirmed Senor Arias NAVARRO as Prime Minister; 11 December new Cabinet containing several liberals sworn in.

6 December In UK, four IRA gunmen took middle-aged couple hostage in their own flat in Balcombe Street, London after police chase; 12 December gunmen surrendered to police and released couple unharmed.

7 December Indonesia sent troops to East Timor and captured capital town Dili from leftist Fretilin independence movement.

13 December In Australian general election, Liberal-National Country Party coalition led by Mr Malcolm FRASER defeated the Labour Party led by former Prime Minister Mr Gough WHITLAM (See 11 November).

15 December EC Patent Convention signed.

16 December First session of world conference on economic cooperation attended by representatives of 27 industrialized, developing and oil-producing countries opened in Paris, ending 19 December.

19 December US Senate voted, against President FORD's wish, to cut off military assistance to anti-communist factions in Angola.

21 December In Austria, terrorists of the 'Arm of the Arab Revolution' raided OPEC headquarters in Vienna and held 11 leading oil Ministers and their staff hostage; 23 December gunmen surrendered to authorities in Algiers after Austrian Government had flown them and their hostages there.

29 December In USA, 12 died when bomb exploded at La Guardia airport, New York.

30 December British Ambassador to Chile recalled to London in protest at treatment of Dr Sheila CASSIDY, tortured by Chilean police after tending wounds of a guerilla leader.

JANUARY 1976

- 5 January UK Government agree £162 million aid for the car company Chrysler-Great Britain.
- 7-9 January International monetary meetings at Kingston Jamaica: IMF Committee defines new Statutes, and the Committee on development of international monetary institutions (Group of 24) conclude an agreement on the increase in IDA resources.
- 21 January First commercial flights of Concorde.
- 26-29 January Canadian Prime Minister Pierre TRUDEAU visits Cuba.
- 27 January Senior officials from UK, France, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, USSR and USA reached agreement on harmonization of export policy in regard to nuclear materials and technology.
- 28 January OPEC finance ministers meeting in Paris set up a \$800 million aid fund for less-developed countries.
- 30 January The International Energy Agency agrees a price floor of \$7 a tonne for crude imported oil.

FEBRUARY 1976

- 1-6 February Seminar on 'Islamic-Christian Dialogue' was held in Tripoli (Libya) under the patronage of the Libyan Arab Republic and the Vatican.
- 4 February US Secretary of Transport, William COLEMAN authorizes Concorde's landing in the US for a trial period of 16 months.

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| 4 February | Steel: International Economic Group of steel producers of FRG Netherlands and Luxembourg formed - French steel producers complain that it violates the CECA treaty. |
| 9 February | The Council of the EC replies favourably to Greece's request to join the EC. |
| 11-20 February | First working session of the North-South dialogue in Paris. |
| 15 February | New Cuban Constitution approved by referendum. |
| 16-24 February | US Secretary of State Dr KISSINGER visits Venezuela, Peru, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica and Guatemala. |
| 22 February | Canadian Federal Progressive Conservative Party elects new leader Mr Joseph CLARK, M.P., on retirement of Mr R. STANFIELD. |
| 23 February | Five prominent Soviet dissidents appeal for amnesty for political prisoners. |
| 24 February-5 March | Twenty-fifth Congress of CPSU in Moscow: BREZHNEV gives warning of dangers of ideological convergence with 'reformism' and of renouncing 'proletarian internationalism'. |
| <u>MARCH 1976</u> | |
| 1 March | Italian exchange market reopens; Lire falls in value. |
| 2-19 March | South West Africa (Namibia) Constitutional Conference resumes. |
| 6 March | EC: farm prices agreed for the next year - average 7.5% increase. |
| 8 March | Arrest of 8 Libyans in Cairo on charges of plotting to murder Libyan exiles in Egypt. |

14 March French Franc leaves the European monetary 'snake' and depreciates 4.5%.
Italian Government takes austerity measures in face of collapse of Lire.

15 March Egyptian Parliament approves abrogation of 1971.
Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation with USSR.

15 March-7 May Fourth session of third UN Law of the Sea Conference in New York.

19-26 March Second session of the North-South dialogue in Paris.

24 March General VIDELA takes over Argentine Government from President Isabel PERÓN by military coup. Argentine Congress is dissolved. Political assassinations increase after take-over.

26-27 March Federation of Liberal and Democratic Parties established at a meeting in Stuttgart of Leaders of 14 Liberal Parties from eight of the nine Member States.

APRIL 1976

1-2 April European Council meets in Brussels.

4 April Thailand's House of Representatives' elections: Democratic Party under Seni PRAMOJ forms government.

5 April James CALLAGHAN succeeds Harold WILSON as UK Prime Minister.

9 April Direct Syrian intervention in Lebanese conflict.

21-28 April Third session of North-South dialogue: third world countries warn industrialized nations that the dialogue could break down.

25 April Portugal: elections to Legislative Assembly gave Mario SOARES' Portuguese Socialist Party largest share of seats.

25-27 April EC signs new Agreements with the MAGHREB countries as part of its Mediterranean policy.

26 April \$900 million Arab Monetary Fund is set up by the Arab League ministers' meeting in Rabat.

New Community loan to Italy of \$1 billion.

28 April Spain's Prime Minister announces the referendum of October 1976 on reform of the CORTES, and on elections to the Parliament.

29 April Representatives of 13 Christian Democrats and centrist parties from seven of the nine Member States agree to establish the 'European People's Party - Federation of Christian Democrat Parties of the EC'.

MAY 1976

5-31 May UNCTAD IV meeting in Nairobi adopts an 'integrated programme' foreseeing world agreements on raw materials, product by product, before the end of 1978; as well as the convocation before March 1977 of a preparatory conference to establish a Common Fund for the stabilization of the markets for raw materials.

6 May Italian Government requires 50% deposit on imports.

12-14 May India and Pakistan agree to re-establish diplomatic relations, broken off in December 1971.

18 May Canadian Government suspend nuclear cooperation with India.

27-28 May OPEC, meeting in Bali, agree on the freezing of prices until the end of the year.

28 May US President FORD and USSR General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU BREZHNEV sign a treaty controlling underground nuclear explosions for non-military purposes.

29 May South Africa decides to buy two nuclear power stations from France.

31 May-11 June UN Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT) is held in Vancouver.

JUNE 1976

1 June Iceland-UK fishing dispute ended.

4-18 June Organization of American State 6th annual general meeting discusses human rights.

5 June Agreement by the Nine and the 46 ACP states on the price of imported sugar.

7 June IMF agree \$5.3 billion short-term loan for support of the £.

10-11 June International Fund for Agricultural Development set up by the UN.

12 June Uruguayan President BORDABERRY deposed; replaced ad interim by President DEMICHELLI.

15 June UN Security Council approves extension of the mandate of the UN Peacekeeping force in Cyprus.

16-24 June Outbreak of violence in African townships in South Africa: 176 die.

20 June Presidential and parliamentary elections are held in the Turkish Federal State of Cyprus.

20-21 June Italian general election gives Christian Democrats minority of votes and seats in the Parliament; Italian Communist Party second major party.

21-22 June OECD adopt guidelines for the conduct of multinational companies.

22-25 June President Giscard d'Estaing pays official visit to UK to strengthen UK-France relations.

27 June Portugal elects President Eanes with 62% of the vote.

27-28 June Puerto Rico summit of seven western industrialized nations.

27 June-4 July Hijack of Air France Airbus to Entebbe and rescue of hostages by Israel.

29-30 June Conference of European Communist Parties held in East Berlin and emphasizes equality and independence of all Communist parties and their right to decide their own policies without external interference.

30 June UK Prime Minister Jim Callaghan has talks with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in Bonn to strengthen relations between UK-Germany.

JULY 1976

1 July Sr Carlos Arias Navarro, Prime Minister of Spain since 2 January 1974 resigned and was replaced by Sr Adolfo Suárez González.

5-6 July French President Giscard d'Estaing visits Bonn to strengthen France-Germany relations.

9 July Drought fears increase in many parts of the EC.

12-13 July European Council meets in Luxembourg and agrees on composition of the directly elected European Parliament.

28 July 'Social contract' agreed in the UK limiting wage increases.

AUGUST 1976

2 August-17 September Fifth session of UN Law of the Sea Conference.

16-19 August Fifth Conference of Non-aligned countries in Colombo agrees on restrictions on the international media.

25 August Jacques CHIRAC resigns as French Prime Minister and is replaced by Raymond BARRE, hitherto Minister of External Trade.

SEPTEMBER 1976

1 September French Government errate 'Conseil supérieur de la politique nucléaire extérieure'.

6 September Safeguards Agreement between UK, IAEA, and Euratom signed.

9 September Arab League agree that 'Palestine' be admitted as 21st full member of the organization.

13-20 September North-South dialogue recommences in Paris, after talks had broken down in deadlock in July.

13-22 September Mexico Conference of the 'Group of 77' less-developed countries.

20 September Direct Election Act signed by the EC Council of Ministers.

20 September European steel producers decide to set up 'Eurofer'.

21 September United Nations General Assembly opens.

22 September French Prime Minister Mr BARRE presents his anti-inflation policy.

OCTOBER 1976

1 October Italian Prime Minister Mr ANDREOTTI announces exceptional measures to stop the fall of the Lire.

2 October Federal Republic of Germany's elections give SPD/FDP coalition reduced majority.

4-8 October General Assembly of the IMF and of the World Bank at Manilla (Philippines). Uncontrolled floating exchange rates are criticized; the periodical sale of gold by the IMF is to be re-examined.

8 October Spain and Portugal adopt urgent austerity measures in face of the economic crisis.

15 October EC sign Cooperation agreement with Egypt, followed by signature of Agreements with Syria and Jordan.
Negotiations between EC-Turkey are adjourned.

17 October Revaluation of the DM by 2% within the 'snake'.

18 October EEC/Greece: First ministerial Negotiating session.

25 October 'Black Monday' for the £: drops to its lowest level.

26 October Adoption of the Second Collection budget in France, vote in the National Assembly against capital gains tax.

28 October-4 November Egypt holds popular elections.

NOVEMBER 1976

- 2 November US Presidential Election: Jimmy 'Who?' CARTER elected by narrow plurality.
- 4-5 November Meeting of 15 Western African states at Lomé to discuss the establishment of a Common Market.
- 10 November Federal German Government adopts a 430 million DM programme to ease problems of people seeking work.
- 11 November OPEC Special Fund agrees \$200 million interest free loans to 45 less-developed countries of the third world.
- 11-12 November Japanese steel manufacturers accept limitations to steel exports to EC during meetings between EC-Japan contact group.
- 11-12 November Meeting at Rambouillet, Mr GISCARD d'ESTAING and Mr CALLAGHAN study ways of ending reserve currency role of £.
- 12 November Japanese Government takes measures to stimulate the economy.
- 22 November Finance Ministers of the EC agree Commission lending £500 million to continue support of Italy.
- 24 November Commission of the EC adopts the SIMONET anti-crisis plan.
- 29-30 November European Council meets in The Hague.
- 29 November-10 December GATT, Textile Committee meets in Geneva to decide the renegotiation of the Multifibres Agreement.

DECEMBER 1976

- 1 December Mr AGNELLI announces Libya's buying of 9.1% of FIAT's capital.

2 December 'Economic' summit between Mr GISCARD d'ESTAING and Mr ANDREOTTI at Pisa. Mr GISCARD d'ESTAING proposes a 'summit' meeting of the 'principal industrialized countries'.

10 December USSR extends her fishing limits to 200 miles.

13 December Restart of work on nuclear power stations near La Hage after twelve weeks of troubles.

15 December UK Chancellor Denis HEALEY announces a two year plan of economy to satisfy the demands of the IMF on their \$3.9 million loan to Great Britain.

Spanish national referendum approves overwhelmingly political reform programme initiated by the SUAREZ Government.

15-17 December OPEC meeting at Doha (Qatar) of oil ministers. An increase of 10% on 1 January 1977 (then +5% in July 1977) is agreed by 11 of 13 countries. Two others (Saudi Arabia and UAE) increase theirs by 5%.

16 December France suspends its exports of nuclear reprocessing plant.

21 December EC adopts a plan for the organization of the oil market in case of crisis.

JANUARY 1977

- 1 January European Community declares 200 mile fishing limit.
- 4 January French Constitutional Court finds no clause of the Direct Elections decision contrary to the French Constitution.
- 6-7 January Czechoslovakia: 'Chartyr 77' appears alledging non-observance of human rights in the country in contravention to the Helsinki Final Act.
- 8 January New Commission of the EC take up their offices.
- 18 January Agreements between EC and Egypt, Syria, and Jordan signed as part of EC-Mediterranean policy.
- 20 J-nuary US President CARTER inaugurated.
- 24 January US Vice-President MONDALE begins his tour of European and other capitals.
- 27 January Troubles in Spain.
- 28 January Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism signed by 17 members of the Council of Europe.

FEBRUARY 1977

- 3 February CSCE: meeting of neutral and non-aligned countries in Belgrade for June meeting.
- 6-7 February EC-Japan talks on achieving a better balance in economic and trade relations continue.
- Anti-dumping action taken on Japanese roller bearings by EC Commission.
- 8 February EC-Israel cooperation protocols signed as part of EC-Mediterranean policy.

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| 10-12 February | Second session of the Euro-Arab dialogue takes place in Tunis and agrees a number of development projects. |
| 11 February | European Parliament adopts Joint Statement on Protection of Fundamental Rights. |
| 16 February | Danish elections give Mr JØRGENSEN and the Danish Social Democratic Party increased number of seats. |
| 18 February | Spain: seven political parties are legalized. |
| 20 February | Italian Government announces support for Portuguese membership of the EEC. |
| <u>MARCH 1977</u> | |
| 1 March | Meeting of leaders of three Euro-Communist parties in Madrid. |
| 2-31 March | CASTRO visits West, East and Central Africa in an extensive tour. |
| | USSR President PODGORNYY undertakes tour of Central and East Africa. |
| 8 March | Invasion of Zaire by forces from Angola. |
| 14-25 March | UN 'Charter Conference' held in Mar del Plata, Argentina. |
| 20 March | Mrs GHANDI defeated in general elections in India. |
| 23 March | UK Labour Government agreed on pact with the Liberal Party in Parliament. |
| 25 March | 20th Anniversary of the EEC. |
| 28 March | Portugal submits application to join EEC. |
| 29 March | Greek/Turkish negotiations on Aegean Sea. |
| 30 March | SALT negotiations. |

end March

TUNHALLE Conference on South West Africa (Namibia) concludes with agreement of structure of interim government - the decisions are not accepted by the International Community.

APRIL 1977

5 April

European Parliament, European Council and European Commission sign Joint Declaration on Fundamental Rights of Citizens in the EEC.

9 April

Spanish National Party legalized.

15 April

Spanish Government announces 15 June election date.

17 April

Belgian general elections return Mr TINDEMANS' Christian Democratic Party with increased number of seats.

20-21 April

14th round of high level consultations between EC and US.

MAY 1977

7-8 May

Seven Western industrialized nations Summit in London: the President of the European Commission attends certain sessions. The Summit emphasizes its pledge to try to reduce unemployment and inflation.

17 May

General elections in Israel sees the defeat of the Labour Government, and the victory of Mr BEGIN's Likud Party.

JUNE 1977

6 June

Mr ECEVIT gains partial victory in the general elections in Turkey.

6-7 June

North-South dialogue ministerial conference concludes with limited agreement.

15 June

Belgrade Conference following the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Spanish elections: PSOE and Centre Party victory. Government of Mr SUAREZ formed in office.

